

## DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

### Quality Schools Facility Grants Program

The Quality Schools Grant Program is a competitive grant program created to provide infrastructure grants, matching planning grants, and emergency grants to public school districts in Montana. The statute creating the Program was passed by the 61<sup>st</sup> Legislature.

The Quality Schools program addresses facility improvements to Montana's K-12 schools, enhancing the quality of life and protecting the health, safety, and welfare of students. Grant projects include energy efficiency improvements, technology upgrades, classroom expansions, and improvements that ensure schools meet accreditation standards.

The Quality Schools staff currently administers 35 grants remaining from the 473 grants completed during the past biennium.

**Funding:** Quality Schools is funded with state special revenues.

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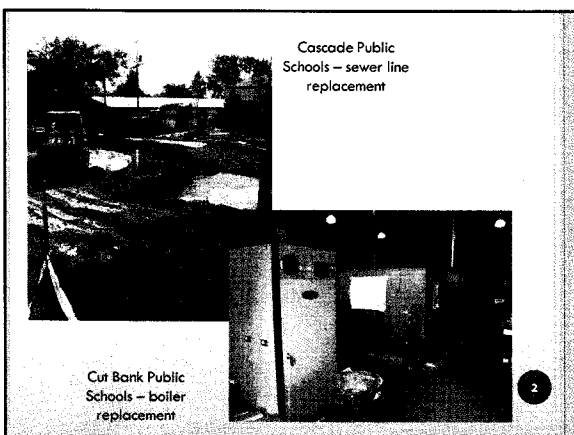
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## DIRECTOR'S OFFICE RATES & DECISION PACKAGES

### HB 2 Decision Packages - Quality Schools:

#### **Significant HB 2 Present Law Adjustments:**

**PL-8108 Administrative Costs Adjustment:** This decision package makes minor adjustments to the Quality Schools Grant Program administrative funding to restore overtime; cover additional printing, travel, and rent expenses; and reduce one-time cost areas incurred in the base year.

\$10,575 in FY 2012 and \$11,217 in FY 2013 is funded with state special revenue.

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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

The missions of the Community Development Division (CDD) are set forth in Title 90, Chapters 1 and 6, MCA. CDD is funded primarily through federal funds and state-special revenue account grant programs, with additional appropriations provided in HB 2.

Community Development Division directly administers four grant programs:

- Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG);
- Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP);
- Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP); and
- Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP).

Two citizen boards, appointed by the Governor, are attached to the Division for administrative purposes. The division provides office facilities, staff, and administrative support for the two boards:

- Montana Coal Board; and
- Montana Hard Rock Mining Impact Board.

4

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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) is a federally-funded competitive grant program that assists eligible communities with planning, engineering, financing, housing, infrastructure, and the establishment of community service facilities. Under state law, CDD is charged with administering CDBG and adopting implementing rules. CDBG's staff currently administers 162 grants (97 facility or housing grants and 65 planning grants).

All projects funded by CDBG must principally benefit low and moderate income persons. Under current federal law, eligible applicants are limited to municipalities with a population under 50,000 and all 56 Montana counties.

**Funding:** CDBG is funded primarily by federal dollars through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and with general fund match.

5

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City of Malta - Hi-Line  
Retirement Center



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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP)

CTAP provides technical land use and planning assistance to Montana communities by working with local governments, planning departments, private developers, non-profit organizations, and the public.

CTAP fulfills the Department's statutory mission to provide technical assistance to local governments and act as a clearinghouse for information. CTAP's staff shares professional knowledge, conducts workshops, and provides GIS mapping, publications, and research materials on such issues as subdivision regulations, zoning regulations, recording certificates of survey and plats, administrative decision-making, and case law updates. During 2010, CTAP assisted over 100 local government entities; 20 private sector engineers and surveyors, and numerous public citizens and non-profit organizations.

**Funding:** CTAP is funded with state general funds.

7

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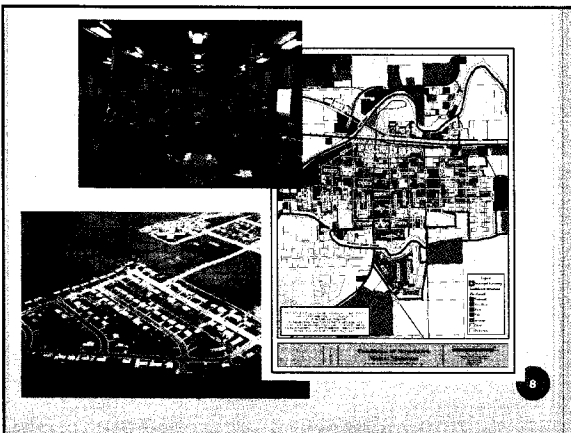
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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)

NSP provides funds to eligible tribal and local governments to acquire foreclosed or abandoned structures and rehabilitate, resell, or redevelop these units for resale as affordable housing. Funds are allocated through a competitive process, with preference to projects or grantees that serve persons of low income.

NSP's staff currently administers 8 grants to Missoula, Kalispell, Great Falls, Anaconda, Billings, Sanders County, Pondera County, and Gallatin County.

**Funding:** NSP is funded with federal dollars allocated through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). An additional \$5 million dollars for further NSP activity is expected Spring 2011. NSP appropriations have been secured by budget amendments.

9

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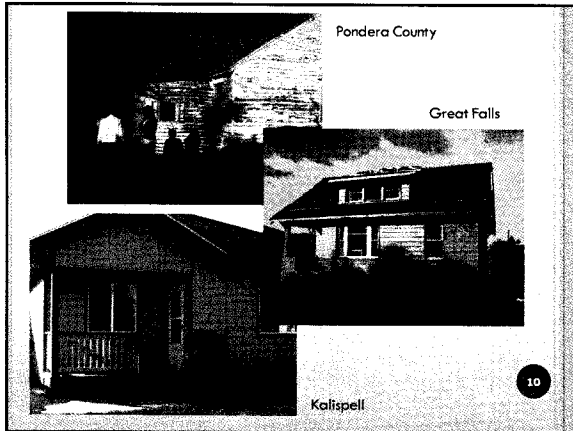
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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP)

TSEP is a competitive grant program that funds local government infrastructure projects, including water and wastewater systems and bridges, emergency grants for urgent projects, and matching preliminary engineering grants.

TSEP's staff currently administers 131 grants (110 Infrastructure grants and 21 PER grants) and provides engineering assistance to local governments and other programs in the Department of Commerce.

**Funding:** TSEP grants are funded by interest earnings on the Treasure State Endowment Fund, a sub-fund of the coal tax trust fund. Under current law, 50% of the coal severance taxes that flow into the coal tax trust fund are transferred to the endowment fund until 2016.

11

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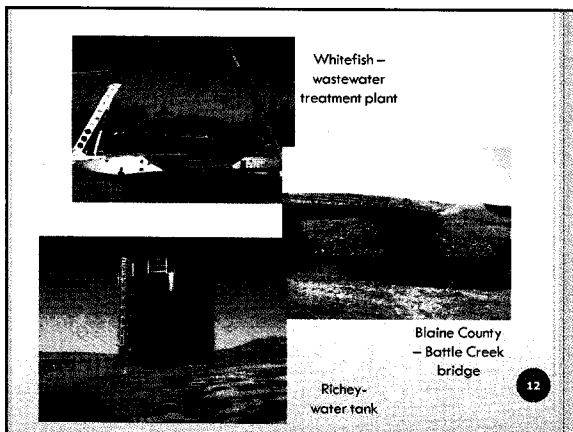
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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### Montana Coal Board

The Montana Coal Board, administratively attached to the Department, provides grants to provide for the expansion of public services or facilities needed as a direct consequence of coal development activities.

The Board funds grants to local governments, school districts, other local or state governmental units or agencies, and tribal governments. Past grants include community and emergency service facilities and equipment, and preliminary engineering grants for expansion of community infrastructure.

CDD staff provides administrative support to the Board, and currently administers 25 grants for the Board.

**Funding:** The Board is funded from the oil, gas, and coal natural resource account.

13

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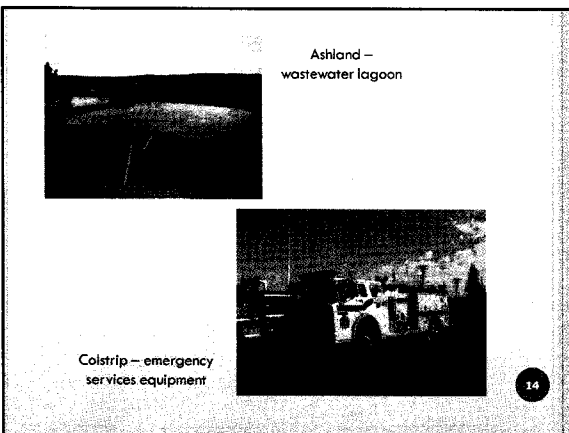
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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

### Hard Rock Mining Impact Board

The five-member Hard Rock Mining Impact Board (HRMB), administratively attached to the Department, administers the Hard-Rock Mining Impact Act (HRMI) (Sections 90-6-301, *et seq.*, MCA) and the companion Property Tax Base Sharing Act (PTBS) (Sections 90-6-401, *et seq.*, MCA).

The HRMB provides technical assistance with metal mines license tax distributions – including planning, analysis, mitigation, and mediation services – to local governments and mine developers where potential impacts to the public from large-scale mine development are identified. The HRMB also handles disputes between affected entities and mine developers. CDD staff provides administrative support for the HRMB.

**Funding:** The HRMB is funded by a 2.5% allocation of the metalliferous mines license tax.

15

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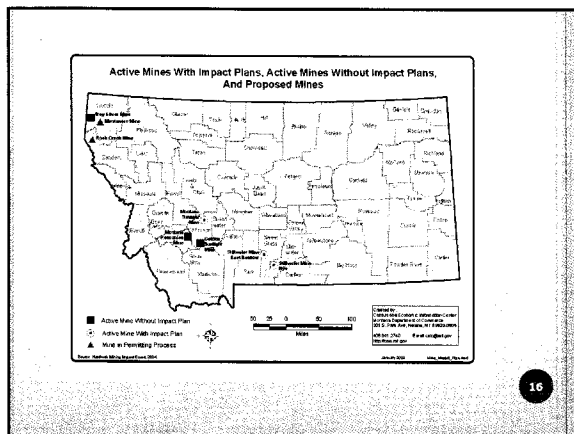
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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION RATES & DECISION PACKAGES

### HB 2 Decision Packages – CDD Administrative Costs:

#### Significant HB 2 Present Law Adjustments:

**PL-6008 Administrative Costs Adjustment:** This decision package makes minor adjustments to CDD administrative funding to restore overtime; cover additional printing, travel, equipment, and rent expenses; increase per diem for Coal Board and HRMB members; and reduce one-time costs incurred in the previous biennium.

The adjustment also provides for the HRMB's reserve account appropriation and an increase in spending authority to provide Coal Board grants at the level of revenues anticipated for the 2013 biennium.

\$822,228 in FY 2012 and \$819,965 in FY 2013. Of these amounts \$700,000 is for Coal Board grants and \$100,000 is for the Hard Rock reserve each fiscal year. Both are funded with state special revenue.

17

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2011

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION RATES & DECISION PACKAGES

### HB 2 Decision Packages – CDD Federal Grants:

#### Significant HB 2 Present Law Adjustments:

**PL-6009 Federal Grants Adjustment:** This decision package adjusts normal ongoing federal appropriations for grants to match the estimated federal funds that will be received in the 2013 biennium. Both FY 2012 and FY 2013 are estimated at \$1,000,000 each year in federal special revenue.

18

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

19

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